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your Lordship's sentiments; and, with a proper attention towards your Lordship, I have to declare, that at present I am wholly unconnected with any kind of partnership, or have I at this moment granted any licence to any one.

Before I close this letter, it may be necessary to inform your Lordship, that my process is to cut the flax into lengths, short enough to card and spin on cotton spinning machines; and in general to bleach it before it is spun, as in its open and cut state the fibres or staple are not only rendered much finer, and more soft and flexible but the cloth requires very little or scarce any bleaching after it is wove, more than cleansing it from the dirt, it has collected in spinning and manufacturing, by the weaver's size, &c. This is no contemptible advantage, as the cloth gets into the market almost immediately after it comes out of the loom, and is not impoverished and harassed by ashes, and the burning system of bleaching, or in other words, by forcibly taking from the cloth a considerable portion of its component parts; for though less elegant, it must be allowed that by the old system *unbleached* linens will last much longer than *bleached* linens; but not so by my system:—for that which the cloth loses in becoming white by the old method, is by the new method extracted before it becomes a thread, consequently the thread is composed of only the best parts of flax, and my cloth having no earthy particles, or soluble matter to lose, is capable of being washed without being impoverished. Many months are also saved in bringing the cloth from the hands of the weaver to those of the consumer; and if a given weight of flax requires a very long and tedious time to whiten, it is self evident, the interest on capital must be very considerably less by this operation taking place *before* it is spun, and wove, than *after* the spinners are paid.

Dr. Adam Smith states, that it requires four spinners to keep one linen weaver at work, and with shame be it spoken, little has been done for linen-spinning since his day: though it is an incontestable fact that linen is in all cases far preferable to cotton; besides this, the raw material is not only a home produce, but it is a much cheaper raw material than cotton, and which the uncultivated bogs of England and Ireland (according to Mr. Arthur Young) would yield to an indefinite extent.—This invention I can assure your Lordship has cost me many anxious

hours, and in money not less than twelve thousand pounds, to perfect, and it is now in a state which requires no new experiments to be tried upon it.—To speak in a language which cannot be misunderstood, I have now at hand a dozen pieces of linen, superior to any which were ever manufactured in Ireland, and which have been manufactured by my system, and the spinning part effected wholly by cotton machines, without in any degree altering the machinery, but accomplished merely by the preparation of the flax:—the machines alternately spinning a handful of flax this minute, a handful of cotton the next, (or any larger quantities) in which there can be no deception, and no subterfuge.

The day is not far off when I hope to be allowed to enlarge on other advantages, but I trust that I have said enough to rouse your Lordship's attention and wanted sagacity, and that will be sufficient.

I am, my Lord, your lordship's most obedient humble servant,

JOHN DUMBELL.

The Right Hon. Lord Frankfort.

Extracts from the President's Message to Congress, November 1811.

IN calling you together sooner than a separation from your homes, would otherwise have been required, I yielded to considerations drawn from the posture of our foreign affairs; and in fixing the present, for the time of your meeting, regard was had to the probability of further developments of the policy of the belligerent powers towards this country, which might the more unite the national councils, in the measures to be pursued.

At the close of the last session of Congress it was hoped that the successive confirmations of the extinction of the French decrees, so far as they violated our neutral commerce, would have induced the government of Great Britain to repeal its orders in council; and thereby authorize a removal of the existing obstructions to her commerce with the United States.

Instead of this reasonable step towards satisfaction and friendship between the two nations, the orders were at a moment when least to have been expected put into more rigorous execution; and it was communicated through the British envoy just arrived, that, whilst the revocation of the edicts of France, as officially made known to the British government, was denied to

have taken place ; it was an indispensable condition of the repeal of the British orders, that commerce should be restored to a footing, that would admit the productions and manufactures of Great Britain, when owned by neutrals, into markets shut against them by her enemy ; the United States being given to understand that, in the mean time, a continuance of their non-importation act would lead to measures of retaliation.

At a later date, it has indeed appeared, that a communication to the British government of fresh evidence of the repeal of the French decrees against our neutral trade, was followed by an intimation, that it had been transmitted to the British Plenipotentiary here, in order that it might receive full consideration in the depending discussions. This communication appears not to have been received : But the transmission of it hither, instead of founding on it an actual repeal of the orders, or assurances that the repeal would ensue, will not permit us to rely on any effective change, in the British cabinet. To be ready to meet with cordiality satisfactory proofs of such a change, and to proceed in the mean time, in adapting our measures to the views which have been disclosed through that minister, will best consult our whole duty.

In the unfriendly spirit of those disclosures, indemnity and redress for other wrongs have continued to be withheld, and our coasts and the mouths of our harbours have again witnessed scenes not less derogatory to the dearest of our national rights, than vexatious to the regular course of our trade.

Among the occurrences produced by the conduct of British ships of war hovering on our coasts, was an encounter between one of them and the American frigate, commanded by Captain Rogers, rendered unavoidable, on the part of the latter, by a fire, commenced without cause, by the former ; whose commander is, therefore, alone chargeable with the blood unfortunately shed in maintaining the honour of the American flag. The proceedings of a court of inquiry, requested by Captain Rogers, are communicated ; together with the correspondence relating to the occurrence, between the Secretary of State and his Britannic Majesty's envoy. To these are added, the several correspondences which have passed on the subject of the British orders in council ; and to both, the correspondence relating to the Flori-

das, in which Congress will be made acquainted with the interposition which the government of Great Britain has thought proper to make against the proceedings of the United States.

The justice and fairness which have been evinced on the part of the United States towards France, both before and since the revocation of her decrees, authorised an expectation that her government would have followed that measure by all such others as were due to our reasonable claims, as well as dictated by its amicable professions. No proof, however, is yet given of an intention to repair the other wrongs done to the United States, and particularly to restore the great amount of American property seized and condemned under edicts, which, though not affecting our neutral relations, and, therefore, not entering into questions between the United States and other belligerents, were nevertheless founded on such unjust principles that the reparation ought to have been prompt and ample.

In addition to this, and other demands of strict right, on that nation ; the United States have much reason to be dissatisfied with the rigorous and unexpected restrictions, to which their trade with the French Dominions has been subjected ; and which, if not discontinued, will require at least corresponding restrictions on importations from France into the United States.

On all those subjects our minister plenipotentiary, lately sent to Paris, has carried with him the necessary instructions ; the result of which will be communicated to you, and by ascertaining the ulterior policy of the French government towards the United States will enable you to adapt to it that of the United States towards France.

I must now add, that the period is arrived, which claims from the legislative guardians of the national rights a system of more ample provisions for maintaining them. Notwithstanding the scrupulous justice, the protracted moderation, and the multiplied efforts on the part of the United States, to substitute, for the accumulating dangers to the peace of the two countries, all the mutual advantages of re-established friendship and confidence ; we have seen that the British cabinet perseveres, not only in withholding a remedy for other wrongs, so long and so loudly calling for it ; but in the execution, brought home to the threshold of our territory, of measures which, under existing circumstances, have

the character, as well as the effect, of war on our lawful commerce.

With this evidence of hostile reflexivity, in trampling on rights which no independent nation can relinquish; Congress will feel the duty of putting the United States into an armour, and an attitude demanded by the crisis, and corresponding with the national spirit and expectations.

PARTY DISTINCTIONS.

GENERAL ORDERS.

"It having been represented, that on certain days of the year, some soldiers are still in the habit of appearing with cockades and other badges, which give unintentional offence to different classes of their fellow-subjects—it is the COMMANDER OF THE FORCES' Order, that they do in future avoid any token of PARTY DISTINCTION, and confine themselves to the dress which his Majesty has been pleased to fix for the Corps to which they belong."

LANCASTERIAN SCHOOL.

At a Meeting of the Committee of the Belfast Lancasterian School, held this day, for the purpose of hearing Mr. Lancaster's report on the state of the School.

THOMAS McCABE, IN THE CHAIR;

The following was received:—

RESPECTED FRIENDS—I do myself the pleasure to state that I have repeatedly visited the Lancasterian School here, examining and re-examining the state of order as to the full introduction of the system into it; and I find that in point of beautiful order, the state of the School is such as not to be exceeded by any in the world, the original Institution in London not excepted.

That the improvement of the children consists with the order, considering the short time which the system has been introduced into it.

The entire state of the Institution reflects the highest honour upon the masters, and affords, to my mind, the most pleasing satisfaction, as it has done to every liberal minded person who has visited it—from a number of whom, I have had reports that have increased my gratification—till, between seeing and hearing, it has become inexpressible.

I most heartily congratulate you upon the noble principles upon which your institution is founded, as well as upon its success.

I find neither intolerance nor bigotry, have any place in your line of conduct. I

hail the prospect with joy, as I know, that education without proselytism, is not only best calculated for Ireland, but for the whole bulk of mankind.

Wishing you all the success your principles merit—and that the same rule of action may not only continue long to do honour to the benevolence and christian liberality of the town of Belfast, but pervade all Ireland—I remain your obliged and respectful friend,

JOSEPH LANCASTER.

To the Committee of the Belfast Lancasterian School.

Resolved—That the advantages of the Lancasterian system of education appears evident to this Committee, by the rapid progress made by the children in the Belfast School—They, therefore, have great pleasure in confirming Mr. Lancaster's favourable report; and ardently hope that a system so conducive to the improvement, both as to the instruction and morals of the lower classes, may become widely diffused over the country.

Resolved—That it appearing to this Meeting, that the universal diffusion of elementary knowledge will conduce to the happiness and prosperity of the poor, as well as the true welfare and glory of the country, we find it our duty to recommend this system of education to public notice, as most eligible to be carried into effect, unconnected with the imposition of principles upon the children, which may be repugnant to the religious opinions, and therefore, oppressive to the minds of their parents—a line of conduct reprobated by a generous public, and which we abhor as calculated only to foster prejudice and generate hypocrisy.

Resolved—That the Thanks of this committee be given to M. J. Lancaster, for his strenuous and meritorious exertions for the diffusion of useful knowledge; for his attention to the cause of education in Ireland; for his able advocacy of the unlettered and unfriended poor; and particularly for his zealous co-operation and endeavours to communicate his useful and improved system permanently and effectually to the town of Belfast.

Resolved—That the good conduct and abilities of Mr. Harrod, the young man sent here by Mr. Lancaster to organize the school, is best shown by its present prosperous state, the good order, regularity and great proficiency of the scholars, and merit the entire approbation of the Committee—which they thus publicly express, in order